Mexico, and is often mentioned by the traveller Bartram, with his accustomed enthusiasm, as one of the chief beauties of that exuberant region. In the Northern states, as well as in Europe, it is preserved by artificial heat. The drawing, which illustrates our description, was made from a greenhouse specimen.

The character assigned to this genus is formed by *a six leaved calyx, twenty seven petals, and a number of capsules arranged in a circle, two valved, one seeded.* The species *Floridanum* has its *leaves acuminate and its petals numerous, oblong and linear.*

The class and order are *Polyandria, Polygynia;* and the Natural orders *Coadunatæ*, Linn. *Magnoliæ*, Juss.

The Illicium Floridanum is a shrub, in some instances entitled to be considered a small tree. Its leaves are scattered, or grow in tufts, on short petioles. They are evergreen, oval lanceolate, slightly acuminate, entire, smooth on both sides, and firm or fleshy. The flower buds proceed from the sides of the branches at the axils of the last year's leaves. The flowers grow on slender, nodding peduncles, an inch or two long. When fully expanded, they are about the size of a dollar, and of a dark, purplish crimson. Calyx deci-

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